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## HOUSE RESOLUTION

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REQUESTING THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE ON AGING TO CONTINUE ITS  
RESEARCH OF THE TIMEBANKING CONCEPT FOR HAWAII'S RESPITE  
SYSTEM.

1 WHEREAS, the Executive Office on Aging is the designated  
2 lead agency in the coordination of a statewide system of aging  
3 and caregiver support services in the State, as authorized by  
4 federal and state laws; and  
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6 WHEREAS, the Executive Office on Aging was awarded a  
7 Lifespan Respite Care Program federal grant from the  
8 Administration on Community Living to analyze and strengthen the  
9 State's current respite system with a goal of supporting  
10 Hawaii's family caregivers to maintain their health and  
11 employment while providing care in the home to care for  
12 recipients of all ages and disabilities; and  
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14 WHEREAS, respite services offer a temporary break to  
15 caregivers from their ongoing responsibility of caring for an  
16 individual of any age; and  
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18 WHEREAS, local and national surveys have shown respite to  
19 be the most frequently requested service of the nation's family  
20 caregivers, increasing the quality of life of caregivers and  
21 often preventing or delaying institutionalization of the loved  
22 one for whom they are providing care; and  
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24 WHEREAS, Act 220, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008, facilitated  
25 the 2009 report, "Respite Care in the State of Hawaii", which  
26 identified several local respite service gaps, such as virtually  
27 no transportation to or from respite sites and prohibitive costs  
28 associated with service delivery, thus preventing many of  
29 Hawaii's family caregivers from accessing respite services; and  
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31 WHEREAS, the Executive Office on Aging recognizes that each  
32 year the State is asked to fund numerous home- and  
33 community-based social service programs that support Hawaii's  
34 family caregivers and their respite needs, such as Kupuna Care;  
35 and



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2 WHEREAS, home- and community-based social service programs  
3 have traditionally utilized a monetary form of currency to  
4 support their service delivery; and  
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6 WHEREAS, alternative forms of currency to support  
7 increasing community needs are being explored locally,  
8 nationally, and internationally; and  
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10 WHEREAS, the concept of timebanking helps transform public  
11 services by introducing a new form of currency called "time  
12 dollars"; and  
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14 WHEREAS, timebanking further transforms public services by  
15 empowering community members to be the providers and recipients  
16 of services, earning "time dollars" when providing a service and  
17 withdrawing those "time dollars" to pay for services to meet  
18 their family's needs; and  
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20 WHEREAS, timebanking may support and improve many of the  
21 service gaps identified in the 2009 report, "Respite Care in the  
22 State of Hawaii"; and  
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24 WHEREAS, the International Journal of Community Currency  
25 Research's investigation into timebank membership in the United  
26 States revealed that seventy percent of timebank participants  
27 join for economic reasons, benefiting from receiving services  
28 and using their own skill sets; and  
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30 WHEREAS, these findings support the need for further  
31 analysis into alternative currencies, such as "time dollars", to  
32 aid Hawaii's families in conserving their monetary resources and  
33 enabling their loved ones to age in place; and  
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35 WHEREAS, timebanking may offer a more sustainable provision  
36 of social services and may strengthen Hawaii's communities by  
37 building on individual strengths and recognizing that everyone  
38 in our community has something to offer, thus empowering our  
39 ohana to be active agents of change by caring for our own  
40 neighborhoods; now, therefore,  
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42 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
43 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
44 Session of 2013, that the Executive Office on Aging is requested



to continue its research and investigation into timebanking as a sustainable and alternative currency system that will build social capital to enhance and strengthen Hawaii's respite system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Executive Office on Aging submit a report on its findings and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2014; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Director of the Executive Office on Aging.

OFFERED BY:

George Baker

MAR 08 2013

